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in excess of the number they are required or obtain alternative fueled vehicles before the model year when they are first required to do so under this part.

§ 490.501 Applicability.

This subpart applies to all fleets and covered persons who are required to acquire alternative fueled vehicles by this part.

§ 490.502 Creditable actions.

A fleet or covered person becomes entitled to alternative fueled vehicle credits by—

(a) Acquiring alternative fueled vehicles, including those in excluded categories under section 490.3 of this part and those exceeding 8,500 gross vehicle weight rating, in excess of the number of alternative fueled vehicles that fleet or covered person is required to acquire in a model year when acquisition requirements apply; or

(b) Acquiring alternative fueled vehicles, including those in excluded categories under section 490.3 of this part and those exceeding 8,500 gross vehicle weight rating, in model years before the model year when that fleet or covered person is first required to acquire alternative fueled vehicles.

(c) For purposes of this subpart, a fleet or covered person that acquired a motor vehicle on or after October 24, 1992, and converted it to an alternative fueled vehicle before April 15, 1996, shall be entitled to a credit for that vehicle notwithstanding the time limit on conversions established by sections 490.202(a)(3) and 490.305(a)(3) of this part.

§ 490.503 Credit allocation.

(a) Based on annual credit activity report information, as described in section 490.507 of this part, DOE shall allocate one credit for each alternative fueled vehicle a fleet or covered person acquires that exceeds the number of alternative fueled vehicles that fleet or person is required to acquire in a model year when acquisition requirements apply.

(b) If an alternative fueled vehicle is acquired by a fleet or covered person in a model year before the first model year that fleet or person is required to

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acquire alternative fueled vehicles by this part, as reported in the annual credit activity report, DOE shall allocate one credit per alternative fueled vehicle for each year the alternative fueled vehicle is acquired before the model year when acquisition requirements apply.

(c) DOE shall allocate credits to fleets and covered persons under paragraph (b) of this section only for alternative fueled vehicles acquired on or after October 24, 1992.

§ 490.504 Use of alternative fueled vehicle credits.

At the request of a fleet or covered person in an annual report under this part, DOE shall treat each credit as the acquisition of an alternative fueled vehicle that the fleet or covered person is required to acquire under this part. Each credit shall count as the acquisition of one alternative fueled vehicle in the model year for which the fleet or covered person requests the credit to be applied.

§ 490.505 Credit accounts.

(a) DOE shall establish a credit account for each fleet or covered person who obtains an alternative fueled vehicle credit.

(b) DOE shall send to each fleet and covered person an annual credit account balance statement after the receipt of its credit activity report under section 490.507.

§ 490.506 Alternative fueled vehicle credit transfers.

(a) Any fleet or covered person that is required to acquire alternative fueled vehicles may transfer an alternative fueled vehicle credit to—

(1) A fleet that is required to acquire alternative fueled vehicles; or

(2) A covered person subject to the requirements of this part, if the transferor provides certification to the covered person that the credit represents a vehicle that operates solely on alternative fuel.

(b) Proof of credit transfer may be on a form provided by DOE, or otherwise in writing, and must include dated signatures of the transferor and transferee. The proof should be received by DOE within 30 days of the transfer date

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to the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, EE-33, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585 or such other address as DOE publishes in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

§ 490.507 Credit activity reporting requirements.

(a) A covered person or fleet applying for allocation of alternative fueled vehicle credits must submit a credit activity report by the December 31 after the close of a model year to the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, EE-33, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585 or other such address as DOE may publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) This report must include the following information:

(1) Number of alternative fueled vehicle credits requested for:

(i) alternative fueled vehicles acquired in excess of required acquisition number; and

(ii) alternative fueled vehicles acquired in model years before the first model year the fleet or covered person is required to acquire vehicles by this part.

(2) Purchase of alternative fueled vehicle credits:

(i) Credit source; and

(ii) Date of purchase;

(3) Sale of alternative fueled vehicle credits:

(i) Credit purchaser; and

(ii) Date of sale.

Subpart G—Investigations and Enforcement

§ 490.600 Purpose and scope.

This subpart sets forth the rules applicable to investigations under titles III, IV, V, and VI of the Act and to enforcement of sections 501, 503(b), 507, 508, or 514 of the Act, or any regulation issued under such sections.

[72 FR 12964, Mar.20, 2007]

§ 490.601 Powers of the Secretary.

For the purpose of carrying out titles III, IV, V, and VI of the Act, DOE may hold such hearings, take such testimony, sit and act at such times and

places, administer such oaths, and require by subpoena the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, contracts, agreements, or other records as the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to do under section 505(b)(1) of the Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act (15 U.S.C. 2005(b)(1)).

§ 490.602 Special orders.

(a) DOE may require by general or special orders that any person—

(1) File, in such form as DOE may prescribe, reports or answers in writing to specific questions relating to any function of DOE under this part; and

(2) Provide DOE access to (and for the purpose of examination, the right to copy) any documentary evidence of such person which is relevant to any function of DOE under this part.

(b) File under oath any reports and answers provided under this section or as otherwise prescribed by DOE, and file such reports and answers with DOE within such reasonable time and at such place as DOE may prescribe.

§ 490.603 Prohibited acts.

It is unlawful for any person to violate any provision of sections 501, 503(b), 507, 514 of the Act, or any regulations issued under such sections.

[72 FR 12964, Mar.20, 2007]

§ 490.604 Penalties and Fines.

(a) *Civil Penalties.* Whoever violates § 490.603 of this part shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$5,500 for each violation.

(b) *Willful violations.* Whoever willfully violates section 490.603 of this part shall pay a criminal fine of not more than \$10,000 for each violation.

(c) *Repeated violations.* Any person who knowingly and willfully violates section 490.603 of this part, after having been subjected to a civil penalty for a prior violation of section 490.603 shall pay a criminal fine of not more than \$50,000 for each violation.

[61 FR 10653, Mar. 14, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 46183, Sept. 2, 1997]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 74 FR 66032, Dec. 14, 2009, § 490.604 was amended by revising paragraph (a), effective Jan. 13, 2010. For the